

Pœocephalus meyeri.	*Numida coronata.
Agapornis lilianæ.	Limnocorax niger.
Scops capensis.	*Podica petersi.
Bubo lacteus.	Otis melanogaster.
*Milvus ægyptius.	*Larus cirrhocephalus.
Aquila wahlbergi.	*Lobivanellus lateralis.
*Helotarsus ecaudatus.	Hoplopterus armatus.
Asturina monogrammica.	Totanus hypoleucus.
*Haliaëtus vocifer.	— glareola.
Gyps rueppelli.	*Anastomus lamelligerus.
Necrosyrtes pileatus.	Scopus umbretta.
Vinago wakefieldi.	*Herodias alba.
Turtur semitorquatus.	*Hagedashia hagedash.
— capicola.	Butorides atricapilla.
Cena capensis.	Phalacrocorax africanus.
Chalcopelia afra.	*Plotus levaillanti.
Pternistes swainsoni.	*Chenalopex ægyptiacus.

X.—*Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.*

1. '*Annals of Scottish Natural History.*'

[The Annals of Scottish Natural History. Nos. 51 & 52, July and October 1904.]

Mr. T. G. Laidlaw's report on the movements and occurrences of birds in Scotland during 1903 is commenced in the first and ended in the second of these numbers. It is to be regretted that a falling off should again be noticeable in the returns from the lighthouses on the east coast between the Bell Rock and the Orkneys; but, on the other hand, those from inland stations are in excess of any previous record. Mr. N. B. Kinnear has some notes on the avifauna of the Loch Arkraig district. In Dr. T. Edmonston Saxby's remarks on the occurrences of birds in Shetland we note the first record of the Hawfinch from that group of islands; and a footnote (which should refer the reader to p. 187 and not to p. 179) indicates that an example of this range-extending species struck the lantern at the Skerryvore lighthouse, which lies to the south-west of Tiree, in the Hebrides. An editorial complaint is made respecting the wholesale taking of the eggs of the Great Skua, no fewer than sixty having been received by a person in Orkney "from one of the Shetland stations" [presumably Foula].

Among the shorter notices we find the first account of the occurrence of the Great Spotted Woodpecker in the Outer Hebrides. Mr. Harvie-Brown contributes some interesting items upon the southward march of the Eider Ducks along the west coast of Sutherland, as well as some valuable details of the phenomenal number of Woodcocks and Snipes which nested in Central Scotland during the remarkably cold spring of 1902. We gather from the writer's remarks that many layings were unproductive, and that there was a large percentage of deaths among the young birds; also that similar unfortunate results marked the cold summer of 1904. Further notes on the subject are to be found at p. 245 in the October number. In this Mr. W. Eagle Clarke records the occurrence of a Short-toed Lark on September 20th at the Flannan Islands, during his recent visit there with Mr. T. G. Laidlaw—this being the very first record for Scotland of this inhabitant of Central and Southern Europe. A large number of Lapland Buntings were also noticed from September 6th to 21st at this new observation-station, and we may expect details of other interesting species. At p. 223 we are told how the Rev. Albert Ernest Sorby, of Darfield Rectory, Yorkshire, was charged and fined (*in contumaciam*) at Lerwick for having taken eggs of the Great Skua and the Sea-Eagle in Shetland, and we are happy to add that the spoils were forfeited. On turning to p. 245, it appears that the Eagle which laid the confiscated egg was an "albino" or probably a whitish individual—at any rate, the successor to a female which was shot and stuffed in 1903. At the time of writing, says Mr. J. S. Tulloch, "every inducement is offered in the way of money for the 'albino' dead." Lastly, we must notice Mr. W. P. Pyecraft's interesting discovery in the University Museum, Aberdeen, of an overlooked and wrongly identified example of the American Killdeer Plover, labelled as having been shot at Peterhead in 1867 by Mr. Andrew Murray, who presented many shore-birds to the Museum. This bird is not, however, entitled to the honour that Mr. Pyecraft claims for it as being the *first* "British" specimen, for the Hampshire bird was obtained in 1859, and although its pedigree was

not considered quite good enough in 1884 to justify the insertion of the species in the 4th Edition of "Yarrell," yet subsequent inquiries have maintained its character.—H. S.

2. 'The Auk.'

[The Auk. A Quarterly Journal of Ornithology. Vol. xxi. Nos. 3 & 4, July and October 1904.]

The July number of 'The Auk' opens with a paper by our Foreign Member, Dr. H. von Ihering, of Saõ Paulo, Brazil, on the Biology of the Tyrannidæ with respect to their Systematic Arrangement; and this is followed by Mr. P. A. Taverner's Discussion of the Origin of Migration, in which much that is trite as well as true is enunciated. Very interesting, but all too short, are the Extracts from an unpublished Journal of Audubon, contributed by Mr. Ruthven Deane. Passing over two papers of local interest, we come to Dr. J. A. Allen's discussion of the case of *Megalestris* versus *Catharacta*. It would appear that in the game of Nomenclature, which is at present so popular, it has been claimed by Herr Franz Poche (Ornithol. Monatsb. 1901, p. 23) that the name *Catharacta* of Brünnich, 1764 (amended as *Catarracta*), should take priority of *Megalestris*, Bonaparte, 1856, for the group of Great Skuas. This claim is now dissected and its futility exposed in masterly style. Mrs. Florence Merriam Bailey contributes some valuable notes on the Birds of the Upper Pecos, in New Mexico, where Messrs. Henshaw and Nelson left some work "for future investigators" in 1883, and the area is, we are now told, by no means exhausted. Then follows an elaborate paper, illustrated by maps, on the Origin and Distribution of the Chestnut-backed Chickadee (*Parus rufescens*) by Mr. Joseph Grinnell. A full-page illustration of a specimen of *Æstrelata hesitata*, obtained in New Hampshire on August 30th, 1903, accompanies a notice by Dr. Allen of the eleven examples procured in the United States—four of them since 1895. This rare Petrel is therefore not yet extinct. Extirpated, as Mr. Nicoll tells us, in Dominica and Guadeloupe by an introduced opossum, there seems to be just a chance that it may still have a breeding-place in the

unexplored mountains of Haiti ('Ibis,' 1904, pp. 563 & 574). The occurrence of the European Wigeon at Los Angeles, California (about 33° N. lat.), seems to be the furthest to the south yet recorded for it on the American side of the Pacific.

In the October number, Mr. Milton S. Ray's account of a fortnight on the Farallones (about thirty miles west of San Francisco) will appeal to all lovers of cliffs, caverns, and sea-birds. The most curious inhabitant is, however, the Rock-Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*); and in one of its nests were found embedded no fewer than 1665 objects—amongst them 769 bones (rabbit, fish, and bird), 492 small granite stones, 333 bits of flat rusty iron and nails, besides wire, pieces of scissors, &c. Six illustrations from photographs accompany this paper. Mrs. F. M. Bailey sends some additions to Mr. W. I. Mitchell's contribution of 1898, on the birds of San Miguel County, New Mexico, and papers of local interest follow, on birds of various portions of the States of Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Particulars are given of the aim and scope of the newly founded "Worthington Society for the Investigation of Bird-Life," to be erected at Shawnee, Monroe County, Pennsylvania; and we are glad to see that the services of Mr. W. E. D. Scott, who is personally known to many of us, have been engaged for the Direction of this work.—H. S.

3. 'Avicultural Magazine.'

[Avicultural Magazine. The Journal of the Avicultural Society. New Series. Vol. ii. Nos. 8-12 (June to October, 1904).]

These five numbers of the 'Avicultural Magazine,' the last of which includes the Report of the Council, Index for the year, and so forth, are chiefly noticeable for a series of excellent papers by Mr. D. Seth-Smith on the breeding in captivity of the Tataupa Tinamou (*Crypturus tataupa*), col. pl.; of the Painted Quails (*Excalfactoria*), pl.; of the Brush Bronze-wing Pigeon (*Phaps elegans*); and of the Sealy Dove (*Scardafella squamosa*). With regard to the Tinamou, young were in the end successfully reared, while it appears that the species is polygamous, and the male

certainly incubates and covers up the eggs on leaving them. The same gentleman also writes on *Psitteuteles weberi*.

In addition, Mr. A. E. L. Bertling gives an interesting account of the hatching and rearing of the young of the Brush-Turkey (*Talegalla lathamii*) at the Zoological Society's Gardens. Mr. J. L. Bonhote writes on the Bahama Amazon (*Chrysotis bahamensis*), col. pl. ; Dr. Günther on the nesting in captivity of the Red-backed Shrike, Mr. St. Quintin on that of the Raven, Mr. Porter on that of the Red-faced Love-bird (*Agapornis pullaria*), and Miss Alderson on that of the Rufous Dove (*Leptoptila reichenbachii*). Dr. A. G. Butler has an article on *Saltator awantirostris* (col. pl.) with another on melanism and albinism, and Mr. Meade-Waldo an essay on nesting-boxes. Among the smaller contributions the breeding of a pair of pinioned Whoopers is recorded, but the locality is not stated.

4. Bryan on Marcus Island.

[A Monograph of Marcus Island. An Account of its Physical Features and Geology, with Descriptions of the Fauna and Flora. By William Alanson Bryan, B.Sc. Honolulu: Bishop Museum Press, 1903.]

Marcus Island is a little speck of land in the North Pacific, in lat. 24° 14' N. and long. 154° E., some 1400 miles from Honolulu. It was formerly claimed by the Japanese, but is now acknowledged to belong to the U.S. Mr. Bryan visited it, in the interest of the "Bishop Museum" of Honolulu, in a ship belonging to a Guano Company, but did not make a long stay. There were no land-birds on the island, but 56 specimens of marine birds and waders were obtained, which are referred to 18 species. Most of these are well known, but a new Noddy is described as *Micranous marcusii*. Good field-notes are given on all the species.

5. Campbell on the Birds of the Bell Rock.

[Notes on the Natural History of the Bell Rock. By J. M. Campbell. With an Introduction by James Murdoch, late Secretary to the Board of Northern Lighthouses. Edinburgh: David Douglas, 1904. Pp. xv & 112. Price 3s. 6d.]

This little volume, by an Assistant Light-keeper of the

Bell Rock Lighthouse, consists of notes originally published in the local press under the heads of the various months from April 1901 to April 1904. They will interest students of marine zoology, as well as ornithologists, as they give an excellent idea of what may be observed at different times of year at similar spots on the east coast of Scotland. As a record of migration they fail in that the direction of the birds' flight is not given, and the state of the weather is not invariably noted. The book is well written, but no very striking occurrences are reported.

6. *Dubois' 'Synopsis Avium.'*

[Synopsis Avium. Nouveau Manuel d'Ornithologie. Par Alphonse Dubois. One vol., large 8vo. Pp. 1340. Brussels, 1899-1904.]

This work (*cf.* 'Ibis,' 1904, p. 147), now quite complete, consists of two volumes, paged continuously. The Index of species and subspecies recently issued is very full, and renders the Synopsis a most useful book of reference to the working Ornithologist. Twelve thousand species are enumerated, besides 3327 subspecies, and references are given to the *patria* of each and to the publications in which it is to be found described.

7. *Ehmcke on some new Larks.*

[Beschreibung einiger neuer Lerchenarten aus den Museen von Sarajevo und Budapest. Von A. Ehmcke. Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung. ii. pp. 296-301 (1904).]

In this remarkable paper, after a few preliminary sentences, 10 supposed new species of *Alauda* are described:—*A. intercedens* from Greece, *A. balcanica* from the Balkans, *A. minuta* from Caucasia, *A. schach* from Persia, *A. beludshistana* from Persian Beloochistan, *A. cypriaca* and *A. insularis* from Cyprus, *A. sordida* from Hungary, *A. subtilis* from Montenegro, and *A. transcaspica* from Transcaspia.

8. 'The Emu.'

[The Emu. A Quarterly Magazine to popularize the Study and Protection of Native Birds. Official Organ of the Australasian Ornith-

ologists' Union. Melbourne. Vol. iii. pt. 4; Vol. iv. pt. 1 (April to July, 1904).]

The chief contributor to these parts of 'The Emu' is Mr. A. W. Milligan, who, besides describing a supposed new species of Kestrel (*Cerchneis unicolor*) from Yalgoo, in North-Western Australia, contributes "Notes on a Trip to the Wongan Hills, West Australia," the first part of which is devoted to an account of the birds, and the second to the nests and eggs procured, with a discussion of the effects of the soil and its flora on the distribution of species. The most important items are the discovery of a new Honey-eater (*Ptilotis nova-norciæ*) and of the nest of *Acanthiza pallida*, while *Lipoa ocellata* and *Psophodes nigrogularis* are said to have abandoned the district. Mr. E. Degen writes on the genus *Gymnorhina* and on the Australian birds in the Zoological Gardens (London); Mr. T. Carter concludes his account of the birds of the North-West Cape; Miss J. A. Fletcher and Mr. F. M. Littler contribute further papers on Tasmanian birds; Mr. R. Hall describes as a new subspecies *Mirafra horsfieldi pallida* from West Australia; and Mr. R. C. McGregor, of the Philippine Museum at Manila, gives us his ideas on scientific bird-names. Among the minor contributions are some interesting excerpts from the Journal of Willem de Vlaming, concerning a voyage in the 'Nijptang' to Australia in 1677.

The plain plates are of *Podargus strigoides*, its nest and young, *Ninox boobook*, and Wongan Hills scenery: the coloured plate represents *Ptilotis carteri* and *Melithreptus brevirostris*.

9. *Faune on the Birds of Switzerland.*

[Faune des Vertébrés de la Suisse. Par Victor Fatio, Dr. Phil. Vol. II. Oiseaux, 2^{me} Partie: Gyrateurs, Sarceleurs, Échassiers, Hérodions, Lamellirostres, Totipalmes, Longipennes et Uropodes. Avec 1 planche en couleurs hors texte, 120 figures originales dans le texte, 23 tableaux, et une 2^e appendice à la première partie. Genève et Bâle: Georg & Co., 1904.]

In 'The Ibis' for 1900, p. 681, we welcomed the first instalment of this elaborate work; and the second portion is even

better than its predecessor, for the excellent reason that in it are treated the "game-birds," including the waders, which appeal to the sporting instincts of the Editor of 'La Diane.' The long descriptions of the various families, genera, and species have been conscientiously compiled, while the numerous illustrations have been drawn with the greatest care; but we are sure that Dr. Fatio's heart was really all the time with the dog and the gun, on the mountains or in the marshes of the great Swiss plain or "trough" which lies between the Jura and the Alps and extends from the Lake of Constance to Lake Léman. Hence the sympathetic description of the Tetraoninæ and their hybrids, the Partridges, Quail, Rails, Woodcock, Snipe, and Ducks; as well as the highly satisfactory manner in which he has traced the lines of passage of these and other migrants. Among the rarest of the accidental visitors may be noticed one example of the American Spotted Sandpiper, recorded from Sins, Canton Argau, in June 1901; one Black Guillemot, from the northern end of the same Canton; and one Puffin from Lake Léman. Very few examples of the Three-toed Sand-Grouse were obtained in 1863, and none are recorded for the great irruption of 1888. There are no collections of living "waterfowl" in Switzerland, and, as a coincidence, there are no records of any species of *Porphyrio*. We are rather surprised that Dr. Fatio makes no allusion, even in a footnote, to the identification by Messrs. Rothschild, Hartert, and Kleinschmidt ('Novitates Zoologicae,' iv. p. 371) of the Red-cheeked Ibis with the *Waldrapp* of Conrad Gesner, a bird which nested in Switzerland in the sixteenth century. Flamingos have occurred, not infrequently, even in the northern cantons; but Pelicans have, as yet, stopped at Canton Ticino, on the Italian side. Many species, however—Ducks, Gulls, Terns, and Divers,—have regular crossing-places in the Upper Engadine, at elevations reaching to 7800 feet, and even remain for some time on the lakes there.

In the Appendix to the first Part we find *Buteo ferox*, *Emberiza melanocephala*, and *Melanocorypha tatarica* added to the Swiss list. The Index is full; there is a good

synoptical table, with diagnoses; and the bibliography is adequate.

The statements that the Great Snipe, the Jack Snipe, and the Knot nest in Switzerland may evoke scepticism, and we cannot accept the honour conferred upon England in ascribing Temminck's Stint (*Tringa temmincki*) to us as a *breeding* species. But these are slight blemishes in a work which consists of 1753 pages and an Introduction.—H. S.

10. Ghigi on the Genus Tragopan.

[Studi sul genere *Tragopan* Cuvier.—Memoria del Prof. Alessandro Ghigi. Mem. Acc. Sc. Bologna, ser. 5, tom. x. Sc. Nat. pp. 151-166, tav. 2.]

This memoir relates primarily to the structure of the caruncles on the head of the male Tragopan, in describing which the author criticizes certain statements made by Dr. Murie in his essay on this subject published in 1872 (*P. Z. S.* 1872, p. 730). Observations made on living specimens and a systematic revision of the species of the genus are added. A description of the little-known female of *Tragopan caboti* is also given.

11. Hartert's Nomenclatorial Rectifications.

[Einige nomenklatorische Betrachtungen. Von Dr. Ernst Hartert. *Zool. Anz.* xxviii. No. 4 (1904).]

The author, after some excellent preliminary remarks, points out two recent cases in which the zealous advocates of "unrestricted priority" appear to have outrun their discretion. Although it is generally allowed that Moehring's 'Genera Avium' (1752) cannot be recognised in binomial nomenclature, Herr Poche (*Zool. Anz.* xxvii. p. 495) has put forward the claim of Nozeman's Dutch translation (1758) of the same work to render Moehring's genera valid. But Dr. Hartert shews that this view is untenable, because Nozeman translated Moehring's generic terms into Dutch, instead of repeating them in Latin, and could not, therefore, be said to have adopted them. It is therefore not necessary

to use "*Buteo*" instead of *Palæornis*, and "*Nisus*" in place of *Centropus*, as Herr Poche so judiciously suggests!

The second case which Dr. Hartert discusses is the claim put forward by Prof. Reichenow and others for the admission of Hasselquist's '*Iter Palæstinum*' into binomial nomenclature. The original edition of Hasselquist's work (1757) is clearly "out of court," even for those who begin nomenclature with the tenth instead of the twelfth edition of the '*Systema*.' But it is maintained that Hasselquist's names are brought into the regular category by the German translation of 1762. This view Dr. Hartert shews to be untenable, because the original work was edited by Linnæus after the death of Hasselquist, so that the names used in 1762 should not be properly attributed to Hasselquist but to Linnæus, who in 1757 had not adopted binomial nomenclature.

12. Hartert's '*Miscellanea Ornithologica*.'

[*Miscellanea Ornithologica*, and other Notes mostly on Palearctic Birds. By Ernst Hartert, Ph.D. Nov. Zool. xi. p. 457 (1904).]

These notes have been made by Dr. Hartert during the preparation of his work on Palearctic Birds, and though some of us may not altogether agree with his conclusions, they deserve careful consideration. He points out that three subspecies of *Carpodacus thura* should be recognised. The proper specific name of the Sepoy Finch (*Hematospiza sipahi*), he considers, should be "*indica* (Gm.)." This we are of opinion is not "fully proven." But we quite allow that *Carpodacus sinaiticus* should be more correctly called *C. synæcus* Temm. Notes on the genus *Passer* follow, and contain various remarks on the synonyms and rectifications of its puzzling members.

Dr. Hartert then takes up Stoliczka's much-neglected *Linota pygmaea*, described in 1868 (J. A. S. B. xxxvii. pt. 2, p. 62), which he is inclined to refer to a young *Serinus pusillus*. Discussing the species of Crossbill, our author comes to the conclusion that the true *Loxia pityopsittacus* of Borkhausen (1796), but not of Bechstein (1802), is

“totally different” from the large-billed Scottish bird which is commonly referred to it, which he calls *L. curvirostra scotica* (cf. Vög. pal. Fauna, p. 120). Lastly, Dr. Hartert writes of the forms of *Passer simplex*.

13. *Harvie-Brown and Macpherson on the Birds of the North-west Highlands.*

[A Fauna of the North-west Highlands and Skye. By J. A. Harvie-Brown and Rev. H. A. Macpherson. Edinburgh: David Douglas, 1904. Pp. civ & 372. Price 30s.]

The present volume of the ‘Vertebrate Fauna of Scotland’ brings us very near to the completion of the series, so far as the country north of the Forth and Clyde is concerned, only the areas of “Tay” and “Dec” remaining, for the former of which ample materials are already to hand. Part of this instalment consists of supplementary information on the districts west of the watersheds between Cape Wrath and Loch Broom, treated in the first volume, while the remainder traverses the North-west Highlands to the boundary of the area of “Argyll,” a coloured map of the whole country being supplied for reference.

While the greatest interest attaches to these parts of Scotland, which include the former sites of the nests of so many White-tailed Eagles, Kites, and Ospreys, and are the present haunts of so large a number of Golden Eagles—not to mention Snow-Buntings, Divers, and other rare birds,—the district is remarkably poor both in species and individuals; moreover, the lines of flight of our migrants impinge but little upon its shores. The large deer-forests, however, are a specially interesting feature, and this area was of old the home of many martens, polecats, and other mammals, some of which are verging upon extinction. Sections are devoted in particular to Handa, Priest Island, and the islands near Skye, on the first of which the Fulmar Petrel has lately been found breeding.

The volumes of this series are so well known that it is unnecessary to particularise further than to say that the usual treatment of the subject is followed, the historical and

physical aspects of the country being fully discussed, with lists, in conclusion, of the various species of vertebrates. In all respects this instalment attains the well-known standard of its predecessors, while a special feature is the addition of chapters on the geology by Mr. L. W. Hinxman and on the climate and its changes from the pen of Mr. Harvie-Brown, to whom we are so much indebted for his constant and valuable labours.

The present volume is dedicated to our friend and fellow-member the late T. E. Buckley, whose portrait, surrounded by those of others connected with the work, forms one of the eighteen plates which embellish the pages, in addition to many smaller illustrations. An obituarial notice of the Rev. H. A. Macpherson is also added.

The accounts of the ancient breeding-places of the Osprey, and the fine series of views of them, would alone make the book of the greatest value.

14. *Hutton and Drummond on the Animals of New Zealand.*

[The Animals of New Zealand; an Account of the Colony's Air-breathing Vertebrates. By Capt. F. W. Hutton, F.R.S., and James Drummond. 1 vol., 8vo. 381 pp. Christchurch, Wellington, and Dunedin, N.Z., Melbourne, and London. Whitcombe and Tomes, Ltd. 1904.]

The Mammals of New Zealand are few in number, as are also the Reptiles and Batrachians, so that the greater part of this volume is taken up by the Birds. A new handbook of the avifauna of New Zealand was much wanted, as Sir Walter Buller's beautifully illustrated 'History' (of which a second edition was published in 1887-8) is rather too bulky for general use, and his 'Manual' was issued twenty-two years ago.

In the present work the authors "have attempted to combine popular information with that which is purely scientific," and have certainly succeeded in compressing a large amount of useful matter into a small space. The numerous text-figures reproduced from photographs are also of much value as helps to identification, although we cannot say that they give a pleasing effect in every case. We recognise many old

friends amongst them, and some of these are excellent. It may be added that the sources whence they are derived are always carefully indicated.

The extraordinary features of the Maorian Ornis, which entitle New Zealand and its satellites to rank as a distinct subregion, are well known, and need not be discussed on the present occasion. But the remarkable fact that the islands are regularly visited in the summer by two species of parasitic Cuckoos, which arrive from the north to lay their eggs in other birds' nests, is one that is always worthy of special mention.

One more subject in relation to the birds of New Zealand must be alluded to, and it is a sad subject—the gradual destruction of the native forms. “It cannot be doubted,” the authors of the volume tell us, “that the ancient Fauna, as a whole and as it existed in its original state, is fast departing,” and there seems to be no prospect of saving it. Many species are already extinct, others barely survive. Two “sanctuaries” have been established—Little Barren Island in the north, and Resolution Island in the south, but this does not seem to have improved matters much. “Try as we may we can never bring back the departed birds.” Smiling homesteads and well-tilled fields do not suit them. “Their habitations have been laid waste and their glory is departed.”

15. *Jügerskiöld on Birds from the White Nile.*

[Birds from the White Nile. By L. A. Jügerskiöld. Results of the Swedish Zoological Expedition to Egypt and the White Nile, 1901. Part I. 18 pp. 1904.]

In ‘The Ibis’ for 1903 (p. 421) we gave a notice of Dr. Walter Innes Bey’s journey to the White Nile in 1901, in company with the expedition sent out from Sweden, under the direction of Mr. L. A. Jügerskiöld, for the purpose of studying the Fauna of the Sudan and the adjoining districts. We have now a list of the species obtained or observed by the Swedish Naturalists on this occasion, with short field-notes on each of them. They are 129 in number, but none are new.

16. *Kollibay on the Birds of the Bocche di Cattaro.*

[Die Vogelfauna der Bocche di Cattaro. Von Paul Kollibay. Journ. f. Orn. 1904, p. 457.]

We have now received a separate copy of the second and concluding portion of this excellent memoir, the first part of which we have already noticed ('Ibis,' 1904, p. 651). It contains a series of field-notes on the birds of this attractive spot, altogether 223 in number, taken from the observations of the author and his fellow-workers in the same district.

The country is rich in Buntings, no less than seven being included in the List, of which the brilliant *Emberiza melanocephala* is of special interest. It arrives from the south in May, and nests in June. Herr Kollibay puts its simple song into musical notes.

Altogether the Bocche di Cattaro must be a delightful place for an ornithological excursion.

17. *Meyer on Birds from South-east Celebes.*

[Vögel von Südost Celebes. Von A. B. Meyer. Notes Leyden Mus. xxiv. pp. 232-235.]

Dr. Meyer catalogues thirteen species of birds of which examples were obtained by the brothers Sarasiu during their recent expedition across the south-eastern arm of Celebes. One of these species, *Zosterops consobrinorum*, is described as new to science.

18. *North on the Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds.*

[Nests and Eggs of Birds found breeding in Australia and Tasmania. By Alfred J. North. Part IV. Sydney, 1904.]

Mr. North continues his attractive work on the nests and eggs of Australian birds, to which we have called special attention on former occasions (see 'Ibis,' 1902, pp. 156, 660, and 1903, p. 622). In this part he proceeds with his account of the Passerines of various groups, and, besides illustrations in the text, gives us large and beautifully drawn plates of the nests of *Malurus melanocephalus*, *Acanthiza pusilla*, *Orygma rubricatum*, and *Pomatostomus temporalis*, with three of eggs. The notes on nesting are very full and complete.

19. *North on Australian Birds.*

[(1) Description of a new Species of *Poëphila*. By Alfred J. North. Records Austr. Mus. v. pt. 4 (1904).

(2) On Heterochrosis in Australian *Psittaci*. Id. *ibid*.

(3) On the Bower of the Eastern Bower-bird, *Chlamydodera orientalis* Gould. Id. *ibid*.

(4) Description of the Eggs of the White-quilled Rock-Pigeon, *Petrophassa albipennis* Gould. Id. *ibid*.]

Mr. A. J. North sends us copies of four short contributions to the 'Records of the Australian Museum.' In the first he describes a new *Poëphila*—*P. neglecta*, probably from Queensland, and states that *P. nigrotecta* Hart. (Bull. B. O. C. viii. p. lix, 1899) is apparently the same as *P. atropygialis* Cart. et Rams. Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. i. 4, 1877, p. 382. In the second he describes cases of xanthochroism, melanism, erythrism, albinism, and other abnormal plumages in Australian Parrots. In the third he describes and figures the bower of *Chlamydodera orientalis* from N.E. Queensland. In the last he describes the eggs of the rare Rock-Pigeon, *Petrophassa albipennis*, from N.W. Australia. The nest of this Pigeon is placed on the ground.

20. *Patterson's 'Notes of an East Coast Naturalist.'*

[Notes of an East Coast Naturalist. By Arthur H. Patterson. Illustrated by F. Southgate. London, 1904. Price 6s.]

When in 1868 the British Association met at Norwich, a local naturalist proposed to arrange an excursion to "The Broads," for the delectation of Section D, then comprising Zoology and Botany. The scheme failed, for none but the East Anglians present seemed to have even heard of the existence of "The Broads," and were incredulous of assurances that the district was worth a visit, as one of unique character in England, and of especial interest on account of its Fauna and Flora. The six-and-thirty years since passed have seen a great change wrought, and nowadays the Broads of Norfolk are as much overrun with excursionists—yea, "trippers" of the baser sort—as Blackpool or Southend, to the detriment, of course, of their natural charms and of their natural inmates,

the human native perhaps excepted. We cannot pretend that some of their original glory had not departed by 1868—to have seen that one would have had to go back some thirty or forty years, if not more, to the days of Girdlestone, Hoy, Richard Lubbock, the Pagets, Seales, Whitear, and others whose names are well known to the naturalists of Norfolk and Suffolk; but still the district retained much of its original character which has since, to a great extent, disappeared. With the invasion of the “tripper” has come the publication of many books on the Broads, mostly of the quasi-naturalist kind now so popular—occasionally right when the author “cribs” from good sources, but generally wrong when he trusts to his own judgment, and by florid writing tries to hide his own ignorance. In marked contrast to such books is Mr. Patterson’s little volume before us, which tells the plain tale of a true observer, and is of itself worth more than the whole of the rubbish just mentioned. Yet all will agree that it would have been far more convenient had a little more order been observed in arrangement of the notes, though this defect is somewhat remedied by an index, which, so far as we have tested it, seems to be extremely good. We do not intend to go into any of the notes: some may be thought hardly worth recording, but there is a fresh wholesome air of reality about all of them which makes it hard to say which should have been excluded. The author’s capacity as an observer is exemplified by the fact that he recognised a strange bird, while on the ground, as a Pectoral Sandpiper, which being shot shortly after proved to be so—only not the ordinary American form, but the Asiatic *Tringa acuminata*. A dozen coloured plates by Mr. Frank Southgate shew very remarkable power in depicting birds, and most decidedly embellish this little book.

21. *Rothschild and Hartert on some Papuan Birds.*

[Berichtung. Von Dr. Walter Rothschild und Ernst Hartert. Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung. i. p. 447 (1903).]

The object of this article is to shew that Dr. J. v. Madarász was in error in his treatment of a small collection of birds

which was sent to the Hungarian National Museum by Graf Rudolf Festetich, and was described by Dr. Madarász as being from Bougainville Island of the Solomon group. On re-examination at Tring these birds have been identified as belonging, with one exception, to well-known species of German New Guinea. The exception is *Eclectus pectoralis salamonensis* Rothsch. & Hart., which is really from Bougainville. The importance of having all specimens correctly labelled immediately they are obtained is commented on.

22. Schnee on the Land-fauna of the Marshall Islands.

[Die Landfauna der Marschall-Inseln nebst einigen Bemerkungen zur Fauna der Insel Nauru. Von Dr. med. Paul Schnee. Zool. Jahrb., Syst. xx. pp. 387-412 (1904).]

The Marshall Islands lie in the Pacific, between the Carolines and the Gilbert group, from 5° to 14° N. lat. They are about thirty-four in number. The author, who passed many years on medical service in Jaluit, the principal island, has put together in this article a summary of its land-fauna, the list of birds having been compiled for him by Prof. Reichenow. The 24 species are nearly all Waders and Sea-birds, except the wandering Cuckoo, *Eudynamis taitensis*, as has been long ago shown by Dr. Finsch (see 'Ibis,' 1880, p. 329). The *Tatara* of the group (*T. rehsii*) is said to be extinct on Jaluit, though still existing on Nauru (*cf.* Finsch, 'Ibis,' 1883, p. 143).

23. Scott and Sharpe on Patagonian Birds.

[Reports of the Princeton University Expeditions to Patagonia 1896-1899, J. B. Hatcher in Charge, edited by William D. Scott. Volume II. Ornithology, Part I. Rheidæ—Spheniscidæ. By William Earle Dodge Scott, Princeton University, associated with R. Bowdler Sharpe, British Museum of Natural History. 4to. 112 pp. Princeton, 1904.]

We are glad to receive the first Part of Mr. W. E. D. Scott's work on the Birds of Patagonia. Originally based on the collections made by the Princeton University's Geological Expeditions to Patagonia (1896-99) under the charge of Dr. J. B. Hatcher, it has been augmented by the careful studies of the author in the British Museum into

a complete monograph of Patagonian ornithology, which promises to be a very useful piece of work. The author has been much assisted in his labours by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, whose name is also on the titlepage, and whose classification is followed.

This Part begins with the Rheas and Tinamous, and passes upwards to the Pigeons, Rails, Grebes, and Penguins. After a complete synonymy and detailed description of each species, the known particulars of its history and habits are given, and many illustrative figures are introduced in the text. The progress of this important work has been much delayed by the state of Mr. Scott's health, but we may now hope to see it completed shortly.

24. *Sharpe on the Ornithological Literature of 1903.*

[The Zoological Record, Vol. XL, 1903. III. Aves. By R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. &c. Printed for the Zoological Society of London. 8vo. 72 pp. Price 6s. August 1904.]

In our last number ('Ibis,' 1904, p. 645) we gave a long notice of the "Birds"-section of the 'International Catalogue of Scientific Literature,' and explained the reasons why we were constrained to pronounce it to be *not a success*. It is only fair now to say a few words about the corresponding portion of the 'Zoological Record,' which, as we shall shew, is superior to it in every way. In the first place, we have in August 1904 the record of the ornithological literature of 1903 ready for consultation nine months after the year is closed, instead of having to wait two years for it, as was the case with the corresponding record of the International Catalogue for 1901. In the second place, the price of the whole volume of the 'Zoological Record' is 20s.* against 37s. 6d. for the International Catalogue; and last, but not least, the "Aves" of the 'Zoological Record' is a complete and solid piece of work in strong contrast to the corresponding portion of the International Record, which, as we have clearly shown, is just the contrary.

The number of the titles in the list of ornithological

* Under a new arrangement the "Aves" of the 'Zoological Record' may be purchased separately at the very moderate price of 6s.

publications which commences this division of the 'Zoological Record' is 724. Then follows the "Subject Index," which, although it contains only 36 pages, is, in our opinion, much clearer and more intelligible than the comparatively bulky Index of its rival.

25. *Sæmundsson's Zoological Notes from Iceland.*

[Zoologiske Meddelelser fra Island. Vid. Meddel. fr. d. naturh. Foren. i Kbhvn. 1904.]

After describing the capture of three fishes new to Iceland the author gives notes on 28 species of birds, of which three are new to that island, viz. *Ampelis garrulus*, *Upupa epops*, and *Ceryle alcyon*. He also remarks that *Troglodytes parvulus* is not so rare in Iceland as was supposed by the Rev. Mr. Slater, and likewise that *Streptopelia interpres* certainly winters there. *Fringilla caelebs*, a fourth species new to Iceland, is included with a query, as the specimen referred to had not come to hand.

26. *Swenander on the Stomachs of African Birds.*

[Untersuchungen über den Vorderdarm einiger Vögel aus dem Sudan. By Gust. Swenander. Results of the Swedish Zoological Expedition to Egypt and the White Nile. 1901. Part I.]

The Naturalists of the Jägerskiöld's Expedition of 1900-1 (see above, p. 126) made a collection of the stomachs of the birds obtained on the White Nile, upon which Mr. Swenander now reports. They belong to 18 species, concerning each of which notes are given. Two plates illustrate peculiarities in the intestinal organs of *Pseudotantalus ibis*, *Leptoptilus crumenifer*, several species of *Ibis*, and other birds.

27. *Tanner's Observations in Tenerife.*

[Beobachtungen auf Tenerife. Von Rudolf von Tanner. Nov. Zool. xi. p. 430 (1904).]

Herr von Tanner has been resident in the interior of Tenerife for more than two years (*cf.* 'Ibis,' 1904, p. 670), and has had, therefore, better opportunities of studying the bird-life of that interesting island than previous visitors who

have made only short stays, mostly in the winter and spring. He has paid special attention to the migrants, among which he specifies *Turdus musicus*, *Authus arboreus*, *Motacilla alba*, and *Vanellus cristatus* as regular visitants. Many field-notes on various resident species and occasional visitors are given.

28. *Todd on the Birds of Erie District, Pennsylvania.*

[The Birds of Erie and Presque Isle, Erie County, Pennsylvania. By W. E. Clyde Todd. Ann. Carnegie Mus. ii. pp. 481-596.]

This is a paper on a local Avifauna, but is perhaps of greater general interest than many of its fellows. A considerable portion of Western Pennsylvania borders on Lake Erie, and the author, who has lately been attached to the great Carnegie Museum at Pittsburgh, was sent, accompanied by a taxidermist, on a special mission to obtain a series of birds from that district. In this mission he appears to have achieved considerable success, having secured nearly 1000 specimens in a few months. The present memoir is based mainly upon this collection, but includes all other available information upon the birds of the Erie district. The species recorded in the list are 237 in number and the field-notes are ample and well written. The occurrence of Brünnich's Murre (*Uria lomvia*) so far from the sea-coast is interesting. In December 1896 a large flight of these birds seems to have made its way up the basin of the Great Lakes far into the interior. Other stray specimens of the same species were obtained in the winter of 1899-1900. The Passenger Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*), formerly "very abundant," is now "almost exterminated"; the last recorded specimens were killed in 1889.

29. *True on the U.S. National Museum in 1903.*

[Report upon the Condition and Progress of the U.S. National Museum during the Year ending June 30th, 1903. By R. Rathbun. Washington, 1904.]

The portion of this report relating to the Department of Biology is by Mr. Frederick W. True, the Head Curator.

It gives a good account of the general progress of the Department, although we observe that the laboratories of the "Division of Birds" are stated to be still "much overcrowded," and that "many devices have to be resorted to in order to accommodate the collections." It has even been found necessary, we are told, "to place different parts of the collection in rooms widely separated." The study-collection comprises some 65,000 specimens, of which the Passerine series is well arranged and "entirely accessible," being kept in good order, no doubt, for the progress of Mr. Ridgway's great work. It seems hard that a branch of zoological science that has so many excellent followers in the U.S. should not meet with more liberal treatment (*cf.* 'Ibis,' 1904, p. 481).

The following notable accessions to the bird-collection are specially mentioned:—Mr. Homer Devonport had presented 22 large and valuable birds from his Aviary, among which were an Australian Goose, a Javan Jungle-fowl, a Black-winged Peacock (*Pavo nigripennis*), and several beautiful Pheasants, including an example of Diard's Fireback (*Lophura diardi*). From Mr. A. Boucard were purchased skins of two rare Birds-of-Paradise, *Paradisaea gulielmi* and *Rhipidornis gulielmi-terti*. A pair of flightless Cormorants from the Galapagos, and about 300 birds from that group and the islands on the west coast of Mexico, were also purchased. The Bishop Museum, Honolulu, had presented a collection of birds from Guam, containing examples of about 44 species new to the U.S. Museum. Mr. Outram Bangs had presented about 50 birds from Honduras, and 300 specimens from Chiriqui were received from him in exchange. The Biological Survey had transmitted a fine series of birds'-eggs from different parts of North America.

30. *Winge on Birds of the Bronze Age in Denmark.*

[Om Fugle fra Bronzealderen i Danmark. Vidensk. Meddel. fr. d. naturl. Foren. i Kbhvn. 1904.]

Mr. Winge gives particulars of the wing-bones of the Jackdaw and Crow (or Rook) found in an urn of the Bronze

Age together with the bones of a young person, and surmises that they were placed there to carry the soul of the departed to the "unknown land." He also gives particulars of the bones of other species of birds found along with human remains from the Bronze Age.

31. *Winge on the Birds of the Danish Lighthouses, 1903.*

[Fuglene ved de danske Fyr i 1903. Vidensk. Meddel. fr. d. naturh. Foren. i Kbhvn. 1904, p. 319.]

The twenty-first of these excellent reports relates to the birds obtained at the Danish Lighthouses in 1903, and transmitted to the Zoological Museum in Copenhagen. They were 1138 in number, and are referred to 67 species; they were received from 35 stations, which are carefully enumerated and plainly shown on the accompanying map. The usual notes are given. The most numerous species in the List are *Alauda arvensis* (256 ex.), *Erithacus rubecula* (183 ex.), *Turdus musicus* (73 ex.), and *Sturnus vulgaris* (99 ex.). Of *Regulus cristatus* 33 examples were obtained.

XI.—*Letters, Extracts, and Notices.*

WE have received the following letters addressed to "The Editors of 'The Ibis'" :—

SIRS,—Mr. Harvie-Brown, in his letter to you of Sept. 1st, 1904 ('Ibis,' 1904, p. 664), criticises my article on nomenclature in connection with Barn-Owls (Bull. B. O. C. xiv. p. 87). I am always willing to accept every criticism so long as I am allowed to defend my own standpoint in return. I therefore venture to ask you to receive this reply to Mr. Harvie-Brown.

I would first wish to point out that Zoological Nomenclature does not stand alone in the world in promoting strife on all points of doubt or innovation. From the earliest historical period every innovation in Philosophy, Physics, Mechanics, Astronomy, Locomotion, Medicine, Surgery, in fact in every branch of human intellectual or